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FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION
... a Quaker lobby in the public interest

25 July 2001

Rep. John Dingell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Dingell:

re: Family Care Act

I am writing on behalf of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), a Quaker lobby in the public interest, to express our strong support for the Family Care Act.

We at FCNL believe that all persons are equally deserving of a life with dignity and the basic necessities for human growth and development. To this end, we support a health care system that provides access to the entire population, regardless of employment or health status, age, income, or citizenship status. We believe that it is a national disgrace that 42 million persons in the U.S., nearly 18 percent of the population, lacked health insurance in 1999.

The Family Care Act takes important steps towards addressing the needs of the insured by providing access to public health programs to many categories of persons who are currently ineligible. In particular, it would allow states to enroll the parents of children who are eligible for Medicaid or S-CHIP in these programs, allow states to grant eligibility for these programs to certain categories of lawfully present immigrants, and expand eligibility for these programs to children through age 20 and to pregnant women who do not already have children. It would also facilitate enrollment for Medicaid and S-CHIP for all those eligible for these programs.

Thank you for your work on this legislation. We are very pleased to support your efforts.

Sincerely,

Florence Kimball
Legislative Education Secretary

Jonathan Fisch: Clerk
Edward F. Snyder: Executive Secretary Emeritus
Florence C. Kimball: Legislative Education Secretary

Joanne Rains: Assistant Clerk
Joe Volk: Executive Secretary
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